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PATENT

2631 11-01-02 #4

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Ichihara et al.

Serial No. 10/045,738

Filed: October 29, 2001

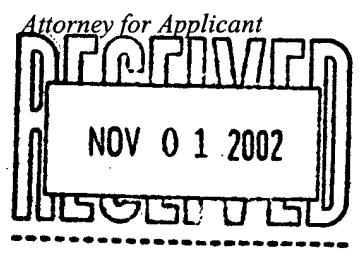
For: INFORMATION RECORDING AND
REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND
METHOD AND SIGNAL DECODING
CIRCUIT

Art Unit: 2631

) I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the
) United States Postal Service as FIRST-CLASS mail in an
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) 10/17/2002 James K. Folger
) Date Registration No: 37,538
) F-CLASS.WCM

) Appr. February 20, 1998



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants through
counsel herewith submit copies of the publications as set forth in the attached form PTO-
1449 as follows:

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

<u>DOCUMENT NO.</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>DATE</u>
5,754,353	Behrens et al.	May 19, 1998
5,889,823	Agazzi et al.	March 30, 1999
6,185,175	Zook	February 6, 2001

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

<u>DOCUMENT NO.</u>	<u>COUNTRY</u>	<u>DATE</u>
EP 0 801 484 A2	Europe	October 15, 1997
EP 0 801 484 A3	Europe	January 13, 2001
11238320	Japan	August 31, 1999
09251604	Japan	September 22, 1997
03278373	Japan	December 12, 1991
01309549	Japan	December 13, 1989

PUBLICATIONS

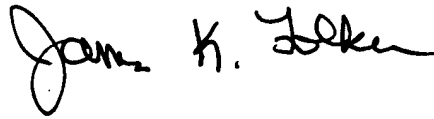
CODING TO IMPROVE SNR IN MAGNETIC RECORDING; Conway T., et al.,
Electronics Letters, IEE Stevenage, GB, Vol. 32, No. 7, March 28, 1996, Pages
621-622

The enclosed references were cited in a Communication issued by the European Patent Office (copy enclosed). Applicants hereby certify that each of the above items of information was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this Statement.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the above-listed references in the examination of this application and list these references of record in the application.

Respectfully submitted,

GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.



By

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October 17, 2002

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